

Disaster Contingency Fund Mandatory

Reports of financial needs from people whose property has been damaged by the tornado and have been inadequately protected continue to come in.

Unfortunately it is a foregone conclusion that the disaster funds would not be sufficient to finance construction not covered by insurance, but there are other problems involving considerably less money that are bound to come up from day to day, cases where citizens need and deserve help from disaster relief donations.

So we assume that the committee administering disaster relief funds will operate as does the Community Chest with a contingency fund for the unexpected.

It is logical to channel a considerable portion of the money through the Red Cross which has its county disaster committee. But there are many things such as tree removal for elderly pensioners that do not fall into normal Red Cross or Salvation Army operations and we are sure the committee is budgeting the funds so that at least 25 per cent are earmarked for the unexpected. As time passes and needs taper off, then contingency funds can be transferred to the agency fund if there are any left. If this is not established policy, it should be given serious consideration.

Recently the divisional secretary of the Salvation Army, Des Moines, published an open forum letter in a Des Moines newspaper in which he expressed disappointment that Charles City and Oelwein communications media did not give the Salvation Army proper recognition. We are aware that the Army had mobile units in Oelwein a short time after the tornado struck and this was reported with pictures.

For the benefit of those who may have read the "letter" by William H. Roberts in the Des Moines paper, it should be noted that Oelwein has a right to feel it has been doing its fair share in support of the Salvation Army for more than 15 years. Through the Community Chest Oelweinites have given \$1200 a year (\$1800 for three years), since the Chest was organized here about 15 years ago, has remitted the Army's asking in full after every drive. Goal has always been reached in Oelwein.

Probably no agency within the Community Chest list has a finer image or better public relations than the Salvation Army.

The writer from Des Moines referred to "what seems to be almost a plot to keep the

Salvation Army from being recognized," and most of the letter referred to what was being done by the Army in Charles City, but Oelwein was mentioned.

There are so many praiseworthy organizations and individuals following a disaster that it is impossible for reporting to recognize all of them, and of course it is inevitable that some may be excluded inadvertently. News reporting following a disaster concentrates primarily on the results of the disaster and not in the careful listing of agencies and individuals that brought relief. There just isn't time to make those kind of cross-checks.

Anyway, Oelwein has been identified with the Salvation Army program by contributing every cent that has been asked, which has totaled \$19,800 in the last 15 years through the Community Chest, \$240 a year or \$3600 of which has been retained locally for use here. The local funds have been carefully disbursed only after detailed investigation.

Will insurance coverage pay for tree and debris removal? The answer is "No" unless the tree is touching the house or other covered building. A recent announcement from City Hall regarding shortage of manpower for free clean-up work indicated property owners should check their insurance agents. We are suggesting that in needy cases, this tree removal, which is costly, could and should be covered out of disaster relief funds where investigation reveals it is justified.

Hit And Run

Anonymous attacks on candidates for public office now have a federal court's blessing. This came in a decision by three district judges in Brooklyn that New York's ban on unsigned political handbills infringes freedom of speech, and thus is unconstitutional.

If this ruling stands, it could jeopardize a federal law and similar statutes in 34 other states.

Courts have been liberal in setting few limits in criticism of candidates for office, on the principle that free-wheeling discussion is essential to helping the public choose wisely. But the public interest is little served by giving anyone a license to fling whatever accusation he wishes, then duck behind a shield of anonymity.

Nor, surely, does the First Amendment carry that license. The court notes, an inconstancy in the fact, the law does not bar circulation of anonymous attacks on private individuals. But this is not cause to preserve a restriction, at least on poisonous pamphleteering on public questions.

Each president must be his own architect.

The Presidency

President Johnson has announced he will appoint a commission to study the office of the president, and suggest how it could be improved and made "stronger." But apparently he seeks to make the presidency more effective, not more powerful.

The constitutional convention of 1787 deliberately endowed the presidency with powers that are mostly implied, and left it to George Washington to chart the dimensions of the office, which he proceeded to do with firmness and foresight.

President Johnson frequently is faulted because he insists on keeping all power in his own hands and making all the decisions.

Today's judgment also frequently holds that the demands of the presidency exceed the strength and ability of any man and proposals for lightening the burden of responsibility by dividing it are as numerous as they are impracticable.

But the power of the presidency waxes and wanes, and its effectiveness rises and falls, solely in response to the talents and temperament of the man who occupies it. No commission can ever draw a blueprint for the administration of the most complex office in history.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, (Ephesians 2:8)

PRAYER: Our heavenly Father, our prayers go to Thee for faith to sustain us, through all the changing conditions of life. We beseech Thee to acquaint us with calmness that we may have constant love for our fellowmen, and love of doing Thy will in all things. In the name of our Lord, who taught us to pray, "Our Father, who art in heaven... Amen."

WESTGATE BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Sabin were Sunday evening visitors in the Elmer Gaede home, near Tripoli, to help her sister, Joyce, celebrate her 5th birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conner, Cedar Rapids and Irvin Scovel of Maquoketa were Sunday dinner and supper guests in the Wayne Rummel home.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rueber, Pamela and Barbara Raffel attended the graduation exercises of Peggy Tempus at East Buchanan at Winthrop.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Plaster and Beverly, Fairbank, and Gust Plaster were Sunday evening visitors in the Werner Plaster home.

Mrs. Matie Kauten was a Sunday afternoon visitor in the Lawrence Kauten home near Fayette. Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Holtz, phoned S/Sgt. Michael Holtz, Fort Campbell, Ky. to congratulate him on his birthday which was Sunday.

Mrs. Nettie Rueber and Leroy Rueber attended the 95th birthday anniversary of Henry Pleg-

genkule, at the Good Samaritan Home, in West Union.

Mrs. Gust. Rueber, and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Rueber, Royce and Reita attended graduation exercises at West Central Friday evening, and also a reception at the Max Rueber home, honoring their daughter Carlene.

STANLEY BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Hilbert Tonn spent Wednesday in Iowa City where Mrs. Tonn had a check-up at the hospital.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1. Flat-bottomed boat, 2. Shade of red, 3. Make choice, 4. Pronoun, 5. Marie of wound, 6. Wordless performance, 7. Vase, 8. Most profound, 9. One's salary, 10. Dish for cereal, 11. Dwarfs, 12. Obligation, 13. Scrutinizes, 14. Cues, 15. Not short, 16. Buzz, 17. Solem promise, 18. Chooses, as for office, 19. Chemical ending, 20. Egg-shaped, 21. Beaver state, 22. More indigent, 23. Foreboding, 24. Hostilities, 25. Great Lake, 26. Defeated, 27. American Indians, 28. Cut, as whiskers.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bridge game analysis by B. Jay Becker. Includes bidding sequence: South West, North East 1 Pass 1 Pass 3 NT. Opening lead—five of hearts. Text discusses the bidding and the outcome of the game.

500 WORD LIMIT, PLEASE

Speak Your Piece

Through The OPEN FORUM COLUMNS

Opinions of REGISTER readers are warmly welcomed in the open forum columns. Readers are invited to take advantage of the open forum columns and submit their reactions on current topics, local, national or international. Letters to the editor should be brief. Rules require that they not exceed 500 words and that they must be signed. Anonymous contributions will not be published.

The opinions expressed in open forum letters do not necessarily conform to those of the editor or with the policy of the newspaper.

Appreciates Disaster Support

Editor The Oelwein Register Oelwein, Iowa Dear Sir, I want to express the sincere appreciation of all those connected with the Red Cross disaster relief operation for the help and support we have received from The Oelwein Register.

OPEN FORUM

Community understanding is essential to the successful conduct of a disaster relief operation such as this. Especially important is the understanding of the disaster victims themselves, for their knowledge of the kind of help that is available to them makes it possible for them to seek the guidance and assistance they need. Your cooperation, and that of your staff, has helped immeasurably in achieving this understanding. You have made a great contribution not only to the Red Cross disaster relief program but, also to the recovery of the disaster victims themselves.

Sincerely, Kay Casey Public Relations Director

FAYETTE BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lambert entertained Thursday evening for their daughter, Patricia, on her graduation and nephew Dale McFarlane. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Lambert and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moenk, Hopkinton; Mrs. Mae Lambert, Sycamore, Ill.; Mrs. Pearl Everett and son Albert, Dr., and Mrs. George Carl, Fayette and Mrs. Clyde McFarlane and Dale.

Honoring their son, David, Thursday evening after graduation Thursday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Conner and Pat, Cedar Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lewis, Plymouth, Mr. and Mrs. Don Orr and Mrs. Wayne Bentley and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Orr, John, Billie and Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hennig and family, Mrs. Willard Langerman and Doug and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Westendorf, Fayette.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bonjour entertained after graduation for their daughter, Ellen, and nephew David Dickinson. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Reuel Pelton and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Brittain and Pamme, Reeves, Wis., Pastor and Mrs. Don Sales and family, Waukon; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Macomber, Ronnie and Shirley, and Mr. and Mrs. Orrie Braun, Fredericksburg; Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Bonjour, and children, Waterloo; Mrs. Charles McLeish and son Charles and daughter Jaynie Lynn of Hawkeye; Mrs. Florence Bonjour, Mrs. Ralph Dickinson, Ralph and Bernice Bonjour, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Finch and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dickinson, David, Nancy, Charlotte, and Ann Marie.

Around the rotunda

DES MOINES—The National Farmers Organization, in a modest way, is moving into Iowa politics.

Heretofore, the NFO has been mainly concerned with politics on a national level. But, at last, week's Democratic state presidential convention NFO members were quietly at work behind the scenes.

The information director of the NFO, W.W. "Butch" Swaim, Bloomfield, estimated that "several hundred" of the 4,000-plus delegates to the convention were NFO members.

Although Swaim declined to give the exact number, he did say that approximately one-hundred of the fourth district delegates belonged to the farmer's organization.

In several districts, NFO members were nominated as delegates to the Democratic national convention. In the nominating speeches, it was noted that these people were members of the NFO. None was successful in being selected as a delegate, although Swaim was named as an alternate.

Swaim declined to say whether any of the 52 delegates selected had ties with the NFO. But reliable sources report that at least one delegate has a strong NFO tie.

The NFO information director pointed out that the National Farmers Organization as an organization does not endorse candidates nor support one party over the other.

"A lot of our members are Republicans and we are encouraging them to take an active role in politics," Swaim commented.

The reason for this movement into both political parties: "We're not happy with some of the things that have been happening in government and we think we may have more influence by changing the party structure," Swaim said. A story was making the convention rounds that Sen. Robert

Kennedy had promised the NFO some say in the selection of a secretary of agriculture if elected president.

At the pre-convention get-togethers, Sen. Edward Kennedy visited with the NFO state committee, where this question was raised. Sen. Kennedy reportedly knocked this rumor, telling the NFO members that no commitment of this kind had been made to anyone.

The NFO state committee also met with representatives of the other two presidential hopefuls, Sen. Walter Mondale of Minnesota for Vice President Hubert Humphrey, and Zoltan Ferency for Sen. Eugene McCarthy.

Swaim said the NFO plans to conduct a series of meetings where congressional candidates from both parties will be invited to appear and discuss their views on the farm scene, with special emphasis on the family farm.

Scouting News

STRAWBERRY POINT (Special)—The Brownie Scout Troop 17 met at their regular meeting place May 21. Nancy Kellogg was flag bearer and Sheryl Davis and Darla Hamlett guards for the flag ceremony. Roll call was answered with a favorite kind of clock. Day Camp was announced for June 24-28 at Manchester. Boats were made from margarine tubs for crafts. Cookies were served by Melinda Seedorff. The troop practiced marching for their participation in the Memorial Day parade. They are to meet at the City Hall at 9:15 a.m.

Girl Scout Troop 29 met Wednesday, May 22, at the Recreation Center with 23 members present and their leaders, Mrs. Robert Schmidtke, Mrs. Bill Kennedy and Mrs. James Thein, to entertain the Brownies and their leaders, Mrs. Charles Seedorff, Mrs. Gary Ryan and Mrs. Art Dittmer for the flying-up ceremony. After the flag ceremony, when Bob Schmidtke presented them with a new flag, the following Brownies graduated into Junior Girl Scouts: Ronda Weger, Nancy Kellogg, Nancy Westendorf, Darla Hamlett, Jean Fisher, Cindy Ryan, Penny Henke, Gwenn Fairchild, Betty Dittmer, Melinda Seedorff, Sheryl Davis, Kim Nolda, Carol Benton and Patty Stegen.

Cheryl Forester read a poem which was followed by several girls telling what they had done in Scouts the past five months. The Elves presented a skit on health aid for badge work.

The Junior Girl Scouts had Court of Awards with badges going to the following girls: active citizen—Susan Munter, Linda Davis, Debra Schmidtke, Jean Cannon, Karen Baker, Christal Jensen, Joan Puffett; backyard fun—Susan Munter; books—Lorie Ken-

nedy, Debra Thein, Ellen Harvey, Dana Busse, Ronda Swales, Gina Jensen, Crystall Corell, Susan Muter; collector—Alicia Seedorff, Cheryl Forester, Susan Munter, Debra Schmidtke, Jean Cannon, Christal Jensen, Lorie Kennedy; cook—Debra Schmidtke, Christal Jensen, Susan Munter, Linda Davis.

Also health aid—Joyce Bushaw, Cheryl Forester; hospitality—Mary Kay Kellogg, Sheryl Hamlett; my home—Ronda Swales, Crystall Corell, Ellen Harvey, Gina Jensen, Dana Busse, Debra Thein, Lorie Kennedy; pen pal—Lorie Kennedy, Christal Jensen; pets—Gina Jensen, Crystall Corell, Ellen Harvey, Debra Thein, Lorie Kennedy, Ronda Swales, Mary Kay Kellogg, Sheryl Hamlett, Alicia Seedorff, Christal Jensen; observer—Kandi Sheffert.

The Flintstones

Secret Agent Corrigan

The Heart Of Juliet Jones

Blondie

Bringing Up Father

By George McManas

By Chick Young